

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES—Wednesday, October 11, 2000

The House met at 10 a.m. and was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. COOKSEY).

DESIGNATION OF THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following communication from the Speaker:

WASHINGTON, DC,

October 11, 2000.

I hereby appoint the Honorable JOHN COOKSEY to act as Speaker pro tempore on this day.

J. DENNIS HASTERT,

Speaker of the House of Representatives.

PRAYER

The Chaplain, the Reverend Daniel P. Coughlin, offered the following prayer: Lord God of heaven and earth, both Judaic and Christian scriptures speak to us about end time. You teach us how to prepare for the approaching day of judgment and salvation.

Freed of anxiety and fear we are exhorted once again to place all our trust in You, O God.

You guide us through all difficulties to lead an ordered and sober life given to you in prayer.

Above all, we are committed to love this Nation and serve its people to the best of our abilities.

Help us to keep love and respect for one another at full strength, because You have told us,

In the end, love cancels innumerable sins, now and forever.

Amen.

THE JOURNAL

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair has examined the Journal of the last day's proceedings and announces to the House his approval thereof.

Pursuant to clause 1, rule I, the Journal stands approved.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Will the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. EWING) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. EWING led the Pledge of Allegiance as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

MESSAGE FROM THE SENATE

A message from the Senate by Mr. Lundregan, one of its clerks, an-

nounced that the Senate agreed to the following resolution:

S. RES. 369

Resolved, That the Senate has heard with profound sorrow and deep regret the announcement of the death of the Honorable Bruce F. Vento, late a Representative from the State of Minnesota.

Resolved, That the Secretary communicate these resolutions to the House of Representatives and transmit an enrolled copy thereof to the family of the deceased.

Resolved, That when the Senate adjourns or recesses today, it stand adjourned or recessed as a further mark of respect to the memory of the deceased Representative.

The message also announced that the Senate has passed without amendment a bill of the House of the following title:

H.R. 5362. An act to increase the amount of fees charged to employers who are petitioners for the employment of H-1B non-immigrant workers, and for other purposes.

The message also announced that the Senate has passed bills of the following titles in which the concurrence of the House is requested:

S. 1687. An act to amend the Federal Trade Commission Act to authorize appropriations for the Federal Trade Commission.

S. 2413. An act to amend the Omnibus Crime Control and Safe Streets Act of 1968 to clarify the procedures and conditions for the award of matching grants for the purchase of armor vests.

S. 2417. An act to amend the Federal Water Pollution Control Act to increase funding for State nonpoint source pollution control programs, and for other purposes.

S. 2528. An act to provide funds for the purchase of automatic external defibrillators and the training of individuals in advanced cardiac life support.

S. 2688. An act to amend the Native American Languages Act to provide for the support of Native American Language Survival Schools, and for other purposes.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair will entertain 15 1-minutes from each side.

HEY BIG SPENDER

(Mr. GIBBONS asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. GIBBONS. Mr. Speaker, last month the General Accounting Office study reported that a dozen of the largest Federal agencies squandered nearly \$21 billion in 1999; \$21 billion, Mr. Speaker.

If the Federal government was a corporation, the CEO would have been fired by now.

But instead, our colleagues on the other side of the aisle, some of the Democrats, continue to fight for bigger government and increased spending plans of the Clinton-Gore administration, an administration which has never reprimanded its own bureaucratic agencies for their sloppy bookkeeping.

It is obvious that the bookkeeping of our Federal agencies is in complete disarray. The Department of Education could not even complete its last audit. They ought to learn some basic third-grade math skills.

Mr. Speaker, this irresponsible and wasteful government spending must come to a stop. It is time that the Clinton-Gore administration stop the sloppy math and join this Republican-led Congress to devote 90 percent of the surplus for debt reductions to protect social security and Medicare.

That way, at least our budget surplus will not be squandered, too.

AMERICA MUST PRESSURE HAGUE CONVENTION SIGNATORIES TO COMPLY WITH CHILD ABDUCTION PROVISIONS

(Mr. LAMPSON asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. LAMPSON. Mr. Speaker, today my story is about Mitchell Goldstein and his daughter, Kelly, age 8. Kelly was abducted from Atlanta, Georgia, to Switzerland when she was 4 years old by her mother, Sandra Gyr Pfisterer, during a court-ordered visitation in 1996.

Since this time, Mr. Goldstein has been trying to have Kelly returned from Switzerland via the Hague Convention on the Civil Aspects of International Child Abduction. Despite numerous court orders from the Swiss court, including from the Supreme Court, officials in Switzerland have refused to enforce the court orders and Kelly remains abroad without any contact from her father.

Switzerland is our ally. Mr. Goldstein has full custody of Kelly. He has numerous court orders from Switzerland and the United States ordering Kelly's return home. Switzerland and the U.S. are parties to the Hague Convention, yet Kelly remains separated from her father.

Mr. Speaker, children like Kelly deserve to have a relationship with both their parents, and parents deserve a relationship with their children. The

□ This symbol represents the time of day during the House proceedings, e.g., □ 1407 is 2:07 p.m.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.